



Certification and Higher Education Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the May 28, 2013 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Chair Nancy Perkins; Jana Lapoint; Heidi Sampson; and Nichi Farnham (Board Members); Mark Cyr and Alisa Johnson, Department of Education; and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate

Also present were: Sandra MacArthur, Maine School Management Association; and Wendy Gaal, Reading Matters to Me

Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Jana Lapoint and unanimously voted by those present to approve the April 22, 2013 minutes as written.

Updates

Certification (Mark Cyr):

- The Administrative Procedure Act public hearing for Chapter 13 is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2013 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. There is a requirement that 3 State Board members be in attendance at the hearing. Nancy Perkins, Jana Lapoint and Nichi Farnham will be in attendance representing the Certification and Higher Education Committee.
- The State Athletic Director's Association has contacted Mark as they are looking for changes in renewal certificates. The association will be contacting the Certification Committee with their concerns and requests.

Higher Education (Alisa Johnson):

- State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is a new initiative designed to safeguard distance learning students and provide them with greater access to online courses as well as to protect state and institutional interests. The agreement is in the formative stages.
- Alisa brought other issues to the Committee's attention that will need further committee discussion. 1) institutions that are currently out of compliance; 2) revocation of degree granting authorization; and 3) fee structures for out of state applicants to operate within the State of Maine

Wendy Gaal, Reading Specialist, Reading Matters to Maine:

Wendy presented the Committee with recommended amendments to Chapter 115, "Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel". If/when a stakeholder's group is formed for Chapter 115, Reading Matters to Maine is interested in being a part of the group. Wendy provided a request that has specific language on evidence based reading which is offered to special education teaching candidates be required for all teachers.

Senator Justin Alford, President of the Senate, sent a letter of support to the Certification Committee strongly urging the Committee to amend teacher certification rules to reflect HP 1376-LD 1858 Sec. B-4 (requirement of evidence based reading).

The Committee agreed to continue conversation with Commissioner Bowen concerning the establishment of a Chapter 115 Stakeholders' Group.

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 1, 2013 at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building. The July 1st meeting will be a combined June and July meeting.

Adjournment

The Certification Committee meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.